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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/533,859

**Applicant(s)**

KAGIWARA, YOSHIMITSU

**Examiner**

BRYAN WRIGHT

**Art Unit**

2431

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 October 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-8, 11, and 14 are amended. Claims 1-16 are pending.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Matsui et al. (US Patent Publication No. 2002/0019817 and Matsui hereinafter (cited from IDS)).

3. As to claim 1, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization system comprising:  
a personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches a database containing personal information [6, fig. 1]), a communication means (i.e., internet) to an external device (i.e., ... teaches internet communication [1, fig. 1]), and an information processing means for controlling operation of each means thereof (i.e., ... teaches an ISP configured with a computer system, database, and Web browser [2, fig. 1; fig. 4]); said personal information storage means storing not only personal information on an information disclosing person but also storing commodity provision information, etc. on commodity service which is provided for said information disclosing person for each information disclosing person of said personal information (i.e., ... teaches database containing personal information also stores service related data [10, fig. 1]);  
and said processing means being constituted by the following steps: a) receiving personal information on an information disclosing person from an information search side

terminal via said communication means (i.e., ... teaches a Web browser configuration for receiving personal information [fig. 4; fig. 7]),

b) checking said received personal information with personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches a verification process [21-32 fig. 3]),

c) identifying an information disclosing person of said received personal information, as a result of said checking, if said received personal information coincides with the personal information storage means [14, 15, 20, fig. 3], A personal information utilization system comprising: a personal information storage means (i.e., 6, fig. 1), a communication means to an external device, and an information processing means for controlling operation of each means thereof [fig. 1];

said personal information storage means storing not only personal information on an information disclosing person but also storing commodity provision information, etc. on commodity service which is provided for said information disclosing person for each information disclosing person of said personal information (i.e., ... teaches database containing personal information also stores service related data [10, fig. 1]); and said processing means being constituted by the following steps: a) receiving personal information on an information disclosing person from an information search side terminal via said communication means (i.e., ... teaches a Web browser configuration for receiving personal information [fig. 4; fig. 7]),

b) checking said received personal information with personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches a verification process [21-32 fig. 3]),

c) identifying an information disclosing person of said received personal information (i.e., ... teaches the use of a password and user id assigned for identification [0049 - 0051]), as a

result of said checking, if said received personal information coincides with the personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches upon matching criteria [par. 55]),

d) reading out (i.e., display) commodity provision information, etc. on said identified information disclosing person from said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches displaying information retrieved from storage [par. 55]),

e) transmitting said read out commodity provision information, etc. to said information search side terminal (i.e., ... teaches a sending a report base query information provided [par. 56]).

4. As to claim 2, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization system comprising: a personal information storage means, a communication means to an external device, and an information processing means for controlling operation of each means thereof (i.e., ... teaches database storage, internet communication and computer system for processing [fig. 1]);

said personal information storage means not only storing personal information on an information disclosing person but also storing commodity provision information, etc. on commodity service which is provided for said information disclosing person for each information disclosing person of said personal information (i.e., ... teaches a database storage storing personal information and service related information [6, fig. 2]);

and said processing means being constituted by the following steps: a) receiving information included in commodity provision information (i.e., teaches information entered via

web browser [fig. 4; fig. 5]), etc. from an information search side terminal via said communication means (i.e., ... teach a search configuration for searching [fig.6]),

b) checking said received information included in the commodity provision information, etc. with commodity provision information, etc. stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches performing a search based information receive with stored information [fig. 6]),

c) identifying an information disclosing person associated with said commodity provision information (i.e., ... teaches identifying a person matching said information [par. 55]), etc., as a result of said checking, if said received information included in the commodity provision information, etc. partially or completely coincides with the commodity provision information, etc. stored in said storage means (i.e., ... teaches performing a search relative to designated service information received [0056]),

d) reading out one or more personal information on said identified information disclosing person or persons from said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches displaying said result of search [fig. 6],

e) transmitting said read out personal information on the information disclosing person or persons to said information search side terminal (i.e., ... teaches a sending a report base query information provided [par. 56]).

5. As to claim 3, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization system where the commodity provision information, etc. registered in said personal information storage means is such information that said processing means associates personal information of said information

disclosing person and commodity provision information, etc., and receives said associated information from an information register side terminal via said communication means (i.e., ... teaches registration process [15- 21 ,fig. 3] Further teaches a personal information associated with service data [18, fig. 3]), checks said received personal information with personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches a verification process (i.e., password and user id) [22-24, fig. 3]); identifies the information disclosing person of said received personal information, as a result of said checking, if said received personal information coincides with the personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches a verification process (i.e., password and user id) [22- 24, fig. 3]); and registers said commodity purchasing information, etc. received for each identified information disclosing person in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches a registration and enrollment process [16 -21,25 fig. 3].

6. As to claim 4, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization system wherein said information searching person includes at least a manufacture, a sales vendor, a service trader, a self-governing body or an education foundation (i.e., ... teaches search criteria [a, b, fig. 5]).

7. As to claim 5, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization system where the personal information on the information disclosing person registered in said personal information storage means is such information that the processing means is allowed to receive information on disclosure limits representing disclosure limits for the personal information on the information disclosing person, from the information disclosure side terminal via the communication means

and that the personal information storage means is allowed to manage in accordance with the received information on disclosure limits (i.e., ... teaches a web browser [fig.4] Further teaches said web browser displaying limited personal information required for search).

8. As to claim 6, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization program which is used for a personal information utilization system comprising: a personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches a database containing personal information [6, fig. 1]), a communication means (e.g., internet) to an external device (i.e., ... teaches internet communication [1, fig. 1]), and a information processing means for controlling operation of each means thereof (i.e., ... teaches an ISP configured with a computer system, database, and Web browser [2, fig. 1; fig. 4]); said personal information storage means storing not only personal information on an information disclosing person but also commodity provision information, etc. on commodity service which is provided for said information disclosing person for each information disclosing person of said personal information (i.e., ... teaches database containing personal information also stores service related data [10, fig. 1]);

wherein said processing means is allowed: a) to receive personal information on an information disclosing person from an information search side terminal via said communication means (i.e., ... teaches a Web browser configuration for receiving personal information [fig. 4; fig. 7]),

b) to check said received personal information with personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., teaches search configuration for retrieving received information from storage [fig. 6]),



c) to identify an personal information disclosing person of said received personal information (i.e., ... teaches the use of a password and user id assigned for identification [0049 - 0051]), as a result of said checking, if said received personal information coincides with the personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches upon matching criteria [par. 55]),

d) to read out commodity provision information, etc. on said identified information disclosing person from said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches displaying information retrieved from storage [par. 55]),,

e) to transmit said read out commodity provision information, etc. to said information search side terminal (i.e., ... teaches a sending a report base query information provided [par. 56]).

9. As to claim 7, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization program which is used for a personal information utilization system comprising: a personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches a database containing personal information [6, fig. 1]), a communication means (e.g., internet) to an external device (i.e., ... teaches internet communication [1, fig. 1]), and an information processing means for controlling operation of each means thereof (i.e., ... teaches an ISP configured with a computer system, database, and Web browser [2, fig. 1; fig. 4]); said personal information storage means storing not only personal information on an information disclosing person but also commodity provision information, etc. on commodity service which is provided for said information disclosing person for each information disclosing person of said

personal information (i.e., ... teaches database containing personal information also stores service related data [10, fig. 1]); wherein said processing means is allowed:

a) to receive information included in commodity provision information, etc. from an information search side terminal via said communication means (i.e., ... teaches a Web browser configuration for receiving personal information [fig. 4; fig. 7]), b) to check said received information included in the commodity provision information, etc. with commodity provision information, etc. stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., teaches search configuration for retrieving received information from storage [fig. 6]),

c) to identify an information disclosing person associated with said commodity provision information (i.e., ... teaches the use of a password and user id assigned for identification [0049 - 0051]), etc., as a result of said checking, if said received information included in the commodity provision information, etc. partially or completely coincides with the commodity provision information, etc. stored in said storage means (i.e., ... teaches upon matching criteria [par. 55]),

d) to read out (i.e., display) one or more personal information on said identified information disclosing person or persons from said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches displaying information retrieved from storage [par. 55]),

e) to transmit said read out personal information on the information disclosing person or persons to said information search side terminal (i.e., ... teaches a sending a report base query information provided [par. 56]).

10. As to claim 8, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization program where the commodity provision information, etc. registered in said personal information storage means is

such information that said processing means is allowed to associate personal information of said information disclosing person and commodity provision information, etc (i.e., ... teaches a storage (i.e., database) contain personal information and associated service information [6, fig. 2]);

and to receive said associated information from the information register side terminal via said communication means (i.e., ... teaches a Web browser configuration for receiving personal information [fig. 4; fig. 7]); to check said received personal information with personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches the use of a password and user id assigned for identification [0049 - 0051];

to identify an information disclosing person of said received personal information as a result of said checking, if said received personal information coincides with the personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches upon matching criteria [par. 55]);

and to register said commodity purchasing information, etc. received for each identified information disclosing person in said personal information storage means [18, fig.3].

11. As to claim 9, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization program where said information searching person includes at least a manufacturer, a sales vendor, a service trader, a self-governing body or an education foundation [a, b, fig. 5].

12. As to claim 10, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization program where the personal information on the information disclosing person registered in said personal information storage means is such information that the

processing means is allowed to receive information on disclosure limits representing disclosure limits for the personal information on the information disclosing person, from the information disclosure side terminal via the communication means and that the personal information storage means is allowed to manage in accordance with the received information on disclosure limits (i.e., ... teaches a web browser [fig.4] Further teaches said web browser displaying limited personal information required for search).

13. As to claim 11, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization system where the commodity provision information, etc. registered in said personal information storage means is such information that said processing means associates personal information of said information disclosing person and commodity provision information, etc. (i.e., ... teaches a storage (i.e., database) contain personal information and associated service information [6, fig. 2]), and receives said associated information from an information register side terminal via said communication means (i.e., ... teaches a web browser [fig. 4] Further teaches registration user screen [15, fig. 3]); checks said received personal information with personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches the use of a password and user id assigned for identification [0049 - 0051]); identifies the information disclosing person of said received personal information, as a result of said checking, if said received personal information coincides with the personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e.,

... teaches upon matching criteria [par. 55]); and registers said commodity purchasing information, etc. received for each identified information disclosing person in said personal information storage means [18, fig.3].

14. As to claim 12, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization system where said information searching person includes at least a manufacture, a sales vendor, a service trader, a self-governing body or an education foundation [a, b, fig. 5].

15. As to claim 13, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization system where the personal information on the information disclosing person registered in said personal information storage means is such information that the processing means is allowed to receive information on disclosure limits representing disclosure limits for the personal information on the information disclosing person, from the information disclosure side terminal via the communication means and that the personal information storage means is allowed to manage in accordance with the received information on disclosure limits (i.e., ... teaches a web browser [fig.4] Further teaches said web browser displaying limited personal information required for search).

16. As to claim 14, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization program where the commodity provision information, etc. registered in said personal information storage means is such information that said processing means is allowed to associate personal information of said information disclosing person and commodity provision information, etc. (i.e., ... teaches a storage (i.e., database) contain personal information and associated service information [6, fig.

2)); and to receive said associated information from the information register side terminal via said communication means (i.e., ... teaches a Web browser configuration for receiving personal information [fig. 4; fig. 7]); to check said received personal information with personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches the use of a password and user id assigned for identification [0049 - 0051]); to identify an information disclosing person of said received personal information as a result of said checking, if said received personal information coincides with the personal information stored in said personal information storage means (i.e., ... teaches upon matching criteria [par. 55]); and to register said commodity purchasing information, etc. received for each identified information disclosing person in said personal information storage means [18, fig.3].

17. As to claim 15, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization program where said information searching person includes at least a manufacturer, a sales vendor, a service trader, a self-governing body or an education foundation [a, b, fig. 5].

18. As to claim 16, Matsui teaches a personal information utilization program where the personal information on the information disclosing person registered in said personal information storage means is such information that the processing means is allowed to receive information on disclosure limits representing disclosure limits for the personal information on the information disclosing person, from the information disclosure side terminal via the communication means and that the personal information storage means is allowed to manage in accordance with the

received information on disclosure limits (i.e., ... teaches a web browser [fig.4] Further teaches said web browser displaying limited personal information required for search).

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 10/1/2008 with regard to 102(e) have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Refer to Examiner remarks below.

Response to 101 argument:

19. Applicant argues, "Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 are the independent claims. Double Patenting Rejection Claim 1 stands provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly claiming the same invention as claim 1 of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/536,548 ("the '548 application"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because claim 1 of the present application is not directed to the same invention as that currently claimed in the '548 application. Specifically, the claim 1 of the present application recites a "personal information utilization system" where the processing includes "receiving personal information," "checking the received personal information," and "identifying an information disclosing person as a result of the checking." In contrast, claim 1 of the '548 application is currently directed to a "commodity control system" that correlates identification information and adds the received client information to a storage means for each of a number of specific commodities. Because the claim language of the present claim 1 is different than that of claim 1 of the '548 application, the two claims cannot be directed to identical subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional double patenting rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Examiner finds applicant's arguments to be persuasive with regards to withdrawal of provisional double patenting rejection. Examiner withdraws provisional double patenting rejection.

Response to 102(e) argument:

20. Applicant argues, "Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because Matsui fails to disclose identifying an information disclosing person, as claimed. The present application is directed to a personal information utilization system that stores personal information and commodity provision information. In operation, the system may receiving additional personal information or additional commodity provision information. In response, the system may check the received information with that already stored in the database. Based on that checking, the system may identify the information disclosing person associated with either the personal information in this received by the system or commodity provision information received by the system. Thus, the actual identity of the information disclosing person may be determined. Claim 1 recites identifying an information disclosing person, as a result of the checking, if the received personal information coincides with the person information stored in the storage means. Independent claim 2 recites a similar identifying in connection with commodity provision information stored in the storage means. Independent claims 6 and 7 have similar recitations, respectively"

Examiner contend Matsui [abstract], teaches the Internet users (ISP users) who own the information to participate. A user who receives a connection service via an Internet service provider (ISP) provides his/her personal information to the ISP with each item being classified



as either public or secret. Examiner contends in [14, figure 3 the ISP user for which Matsui teaches in {abstract} provide his/her personal information to the ISP is prompted for their user id and password. Examiner contends a verification check is done [16, 20, 21, figure 3] to verify the ISP user (e.g., information disclosing person) who has provided his/her information. Applicant argues patentability on the basis of claim 1 limitation of **"identifying an information disclosing person, as a result of the checking, if the received personal information coincides with the person information stored in the storage means"**. Examiner contends Matsui teaches verification process of ISP user (e.g., information disclosing person) in figure 3 such that registration data is checked for coincidence.

21. Applicant argues, "In contrast, Matsui does not identify any information disclosing person, as a result of checking, as claimed. Matsui discloses a system for trading personal information, where the identity of the person is already known. Matsui's system does not even address the feature of checking existing data to identify the information disclosing person. Rather, in Matsui's system, every user of an Internet Service Provider provides his or her personal information directly (Matsui ¶ 0008). The Internet Service Provider builds Matsui's database of personal information. Matsui does not even address identifying any information disclosing person by checking, as claimed, because Matsui's system already has the personal information received directly from the person himself. Moreover, Matsui does address any claimed mode of identifying. For example, Matsui does not disclose identifying an information disclosing person if the received personal information coincides with personal information already stored in the database, as in claim 1.

Examiner contend Matsui [abstract], teaches the Internet users (ISP users) who own the information to participate. A user who receives a connection service via an Internet service provider (ISP) provides his/her personal information to the ISP with each item being classified as either public or secret. Examiner contends in [14, figure 3 the ISP user for which Matsui teaches in {abstract] provide his/her personal information to the ISP is prompted for their user id and password. Examiner contends a verification check is done [16, 20, 21, figure 3] to verify the ISP user (e.g., information disclosing person) who has provided his/her information. Applicant argues patentability on the bass of claim 1 limitation of **"identifying an information disclosing person, as a result of the checking, if the received personal information coincides with the person information stored in the storage means"**. Examiner contends Matsui teaches verification process of ISP user (e.g., information disclosing person) in figure 3 such that registration data is check for coincidence.

22. Applicant argues, " Matsui also doesn't teach identifying the information disclosing person if received commodity provision information partially or completely coincides with that stored in the storage means, as in claim 2, for example. The Office Action cites a Matsui's username/password feature as teaching the claimed identifying (Office Action dated July 2, 2008 - page 4). However, Matsui's username/password feature does not identify information disclosing persons (e.g., users have provided their personal information to the system). Rather, the username/password feature is used to authenticate users that login to the system to search the personal information that is already there (Matsui ¶ 0047). Specifically, Matsui's stores personal information in a database system, such that the personal information may be subject to

trading by companies (Matsui ¶ 0047). The companies may login to the system. It is the companies searching for personal information, not the people who have provided that personal information, that are authenticated by the username/password feature. This is consistent with the fact that in Matsui's system, personal information is provided directly from the individual user without any checking to identify the information disclosing person, as claimed.

Examiner contend Matsui [abstract], teaches the Internet users (ISP users) who own the information to participate. A user who receives a connection service via an Internet service provider (ISP) provides his/her personal information to the ISP with each item being classified as either public or secret. Examiner contends in [14, figure 3 the ISP user for which Matsui teaches in {abstract] provide his/her personal information to the ISP is prompted for their user id and password. Examiner contends a verification check is done [16, 20, 21, figure 3] to verify the ISP user (e.g., information disclosing person) who has provided his/her information. Applicant argues patentability on the basis of claim 1 limitation of **"identifying an information disclosing person, as a result of the checking, if the received personal information coincides with the person information stored in the storage means"**. Examiner contends Matsui teaches verification process of ISP user (e.g., information disclosing person) in figure 3 such that registration data is checked for coincidence. With regards to applicant's argument of "Matsui also doesn't teach identifying the information disclosing person if received commodity provision information partially or completely coincides with that stored in the storage means", Examiner contends Matsui teaches verifying ISP user (e.g., information disclosing person) by checking registration data (storage means) received from ISP user for coincidence between registration data and ISP user input data [figure 3].

23. Applicant argues, "Thus, Applicant submits that Matsui does not teach all of the features of the independent claims. In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance".

Examiner contends applicant arguments are not persuasive, citing Matsui figure 3. Therefore, Examiner maintains 102(e) rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

### **Contact Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRYAN WRIGHT whose telephone number is (571)270-3826. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:30 pm Monday -Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, AYAZ Sheikh can be reached on (571)272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/BRYAN WRIGHT/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2431

**/Kimyen Vu/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2435**